

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1908.  
Fairly cloudy to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh to strong southwesterly winds.

## TAFT'S TRUST BUSTING PLAN

## QUICK ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW ITS CHIEF OBJECT.

He Proposes to Bolster the Interstate Commission of Its Duties as an Investigating Body and Extend Jurisdiction of the Bureau of Corporations.

Augusta, Ga., Dec. 26.—From Mr. Taft's friends it is learned that he is working out the details of a plan designed to increase the efficiency of Government regulation of corporations doing an interstate business. Mr. Taft declines to discuss the plan for publication, but persons who have talked with him say that it will follow the lines suggested by him in his campaign speeches and will have as its chief object the quick enforcement of laws already on the statute books. In other words, it will be one of Mr. Taft's first steps to make good his campaign promise that he would do everything in his power to "clinch the Roosevelt policies."

Mr. Taft's friends say that the proposed plan will need legislation from Congress decreasing the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission, greatly increasing the powers of the Bureau of Corporations in the Department of Labor and Commerce and creating a practically new bureau in the Department of Justice.

The general outline of the plan is described as follows: The Interstate Commerce Commission is to be relieved of its duties as an investigating body. It is to be a commission exercising only quasi-judicial functions. The jurisdiction of the Bureau of Corporations, on the other hand, is to be extended over all corporations doing an interstate business. It will be charged with the detailed work of investigating and preparing cases.

This bureau, acting upon individual complaints or upon its own initiative, will lay the results of its investigations before the Interstate Commerce Commission for decision. It will originate all cases. The new bureau in the Department of Justice will work in cooperation with the Bureau of Corporations and the Interstate Commerce Commission when legal aid is necessary.

Mr. Taft's friends say that the proposed plan does not contemplate the licensing of corporations, but that under it corporations will probably be obliged to submit to closer scrutiny by the Bureau of Corporations.

It is plain that Mr. Taft's purpose is to avoid the overlapping and duplication of work which have been complained of under the present system. The plan also is in direct line with Mr. Taft's frequently expressed wish to do everything in his power to expedite the administration of justice in this country. Mr. Taft indicated plainly enough that he regarded the Interstate Commerce Commission as an overworked body.

Under a plan such as Mr. Taft's friends suggest the Department of Commerce and Labor, containing the Bureau of Corporations, will become a Cabinet post of the first importance. It is said that Mr. Taft is fully alive to this fact and that he is devoting a great deal of attention to the selection of a man for that post.

Mr. and Mrs. Taft and their children spent the day at Aiken, S. C. They made the trip from this city, a distance of twenty-four miles, in a private automobile. Mr. and Mrs. John Mayhew accompanied them. The party had lunch at the Palmist Club and Mr. Taft and Mr. Mayhew took a turn over the links. It was 7 o'clock in the evening before the party returned to Augusta.

Mr. Taft was the guest of honor to-night at a dinner given by Henry C. Maxwell. Among the guests were several prominent Federal officeholders in Georgia. Washington, Dec. 26.—Federal officers are greatly interested in reports from Augusta, Ga., that Judge Taft has evolved a comprehensive plan for the regulation of interstate corporations that he will ask Congress to put into the form of law.

Complaint has been made that the present system of dealing with the corporations subject to regulatory laws is unwieldy, resulting in an overlapping of work that has frequently tended to confusion and in some instances to delay in the prosecution of cases instituted by one or the other of the three branches of the Government which had jurisdiction. While officials here are divided on this point, the view held by many is that the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Harrison case further complicates the situation.

Some express the belief that the decision will prove far-reaching in its effects; that it not only seriously curtailed the power of the Interstate Commerce Commission to make inquiries such as were made in the case of the Harrison lines but that it places a limitation on the power of the commission of corporations in his relations with industrial corporations. This difference, it is held, merely emphasizes the necessity for such changes in the law as will clearly define the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Bureau of Corporations and the Department of Justice in their relations to corporations doing an interstate business.

The Harrison case, which came to the Supreme Court on appeal from a decision of the Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, involved the right of the commission to institute proceedings of its own volition and without complaint. The Supreme Court held that the commission had no right to undertake any such investigation as that of the so-called Alton deal in the absence of a formal complaint by a party in interest. Harrison's refusal therefore to answer questions put to him relating to transfers of stock of various railroads was upheld. While the members of the Interstate Commerce Commission are unwilling at this time to discuss the effect of the decision of the court in the Harrison case, they are evidently of the opinion that changes in the law more clearly defining the power of the commission are urgently needed. It is Mr. Taft's plan to take from the commission all administrative work, leaving it a quasi-judicial body, and putting on the Bureau of Corporations many of the functions now exercised by the commission. Mr. Taft's aim is to make the three trust busting branches of the Government a harmonious working arrangement.

## HE PREFERRED TO STEAL.

## Sed Faced Holding Man Takes by Force Loan He'd Refused—Then Gives Trinkets.

To Mrs. Mollie Tannenbaum, trained nurse, setting forth from her home at 238 East 102nd street early last evening to visit a friend who is sick, appeared a young man who lifted his hat and said: "Pardon me, madam, do you happen to know if there is a pawnshop in this vicinity?"

The young man's clothes were good, but ever so sorrowful was his voice and manner. The nurse hesitated, then spoke on impulse.

"Pawnshop?" she said. "Why a pawnshop?"

"I'm naturally reluctant to speak to a stranger about it," replied the young man, "but, since you ask me, the truth is my wife and I have had a streak of hard luck. We're to be dispossessed to-morrow unless what I can raise on this will save us."

From his pocket he pulled two gold watches, a diamond ring, a gold chain, a wedding ring and a few other pieces of jewelry.

"Please handle them carefully," said he.

Mrs. Tannenbaum looked at the articles over, then turned to the sad faced young man.

"I have \$40 with me," she ventured. "If that will help you why not let me lend it to you? That will be more than good to a pawnshop."

"Couldn't think of it," replied the young man. "I should have to have the face value of these things, you know."

They walked along talking it over and were nearly at First avenue when the young man grabbed the nurse, clapped a hand over her mouth and bundled her into a murky hallway. There he sat her down on the floor, pointed a revolver at her face, slipped the other hand into her pocket and drew forth the purse with the \$40.

"There's your jewelry," he said, throwing his trinkets at her. "Much obliged for the loan," and he hurried away.

Mrs. Tannenbaum got up presently and a little later appeared with her daughter at the office of the Harlem Detective Bureau to report the episode. The station house gem expert peered carefully at the mementoes that were to have kept the melancholy young man and his family from exile.

"The whole bunch is worth \$3—three at the outside," said he.

## HELD ON ANOTHER CHARGE.

## F. C. Matson Accused of Shooting Through a Door of a Chicago Hotel.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Faulkner Court Matson, 41 years old, said to be the proprietor of the Victor Hotel and Variety Company of New York, who was held to the Criminal Court last Thursday on a charge of improper conduct made by Miss Ruth R. Lee, a nurse, was again arrested early to-day on a charge of firing a revolver shot through a door in the Stratford Hotel.

"I saw a burglar in the room and I leaped out of bed and fired at him," was the man's explanation of the occurrence.

Matson was arraigned in the Harrison street branch of the Municipal Court and his case was continued to Monday by Judge Gemmill. Detective Loftis of the Harrison street station said he learned that Matson had been out until 1 A. M., although the man asserted that he had been ill and had not left his room during the day.

"About 8 o'clock last evening," said Loftis, "Matson was taken down stairs by a back way, under guidance of one of the porters, and when he reached the street he called a taximeter cab and took a long ride. He had a woman who lives on West Lake street and her daughter for companions."

Matson denied this flimsy and declared that he had not left his room in the hotel either during the day or evening.

"I was sitting in the dark in my room," he said, "when I heard some one opening the door. Then I saw it start to open and I fired."

## RUSH FROM SPAIN TO PANAMA.

## Labor Agent Has Sent 15,000 Europeans to the High Wage Zone.

The Canadian Lucania and the French liner La Lorraine defied the aftermath of Atlantic violence and got in yesterday pretty nearly on time. On Thursday, when the seas were dead ahead and lofty, their spray, freezing as it fell, decorated with Christmas cake, frosting rigging, rails and rail nettings. A tiny came on Christmas eve, and the Santa Claus season of things vanished long before the passengers were getting outside their turkey dinner.

La Roy Park, who has been three years in Europe supplying laborers to the Panama Canal, was a passenger by La Lorraine. He said he had sent altogether 15,000 Europeans, chiefly natives of northern Spain, to the Isthmus, and that a special board of examiners had seen that none of the workers was afflicted with any contagious disease. Other laborers employed came from Greece, Italy and France. The European workman was frugal and could subsist on a day. His fare was paid by the United States to the zone, and his wages are about \$1.50 in gold he could save a pretty tidy sum at the end of a year and afford to go home again and buy a place of his own.

Spain had found her beet sown going to the zone and had adopted legislation which would check the tendency to emigrate on the part of its most desirable peasantry. The wages of a Spanish laborer being less than 40 cents a day, it was natural that he should hurry to a field where he could get nearly five times as much.

## BOY KILLED BY COCAINE.

## Accidentally, County Physician Says, After Auto Trip in Newark.

The death of John Knox, 15 years old, of 188 South Ninth street, Newark, was called to the attention of the authorities in that city yesterday. The boy was stricken with convulsions while on his knees at prayer in his room late Friday night and he died soon after midnight. Knox is alleged to have told his mother that he had been "doped" in New York.

According to the police an analysis of a box of powder found in Knox's pocket revealed that the stuff was a mixture of cocaine and sugar. Owing to the circumstances surrounding the case County Physician Elliott performed an autopsy on the body. Dr. William H. Marshall, pathologist at the City Hospital, assisted.

The autopsy showed that Knox died of an overdose of cocaine, but the County Physician said that death was accidental.

## BANKER H. W. POOR ASSIGNS

## PARTNERS HAD ALL LEFT HIM, THE LAST IN OCTOBER.

Business of the Firm Fell Off and the Senior Partner Had Three Expensive Residences to Maintain—The Creditors Are Now Invited to Cooperate.

The failure of Henry W. Poor & Co. of 33 Wall street, a Stock Exchange house whose collapse a few years ago might have been expected to disturb the current of affairs in Wall Street, was announced yesterday with no likelihood, so far as could be gathered, that it would have any market consequences whatever worth noting.

Although Mr. Poor was popularly supposed to have several partners, the Stock Exchange records bear witness to the contrary. Early in the year the partners resident in New York, H. V. Poor and William N. Phoenix, withdrew, and in October last the Boston partners, Franklin W. Hunt, Charles F. Cushman and Frederick A. Farrar, got out of the firm, leaving the elder Poor alone. There was some thought at that time of calling in legal assistance, but things ran along until an assignment was the best way out that Mr. Poor's legal advisers could see.

He is said to be in the best of health, and it is believed that he will be able to pay his creditors, who are not many, if they give him time.

Once an important trading house, the firm had not of late occupied such a place in the general business of the Street. No estimate of the amount of the liabilities was obtainable yesterday. A notice was posted on the door of the firm's offices in the morning announcing that Mr. Poor, doing business under the firm name, had made an assignment for the benefit of creditors, without preference, to Mark T. Cox of Robert Winthrop & Co. The notice was signed by Strong & Cadwalader, attorneys for the assignee, and by Hawkins & Delafeld, attorneys for "certain creditors." Late in the afternoon this statement was issued from Hawkins & Delafeld's office:

Mr. John L. Cadwalader (of Strong & Cadwalader), representing the assignee, and Mr. Lewis L. Delafeld (of Hawkins & Delafeld), representing certain large creditors, authorize the following statement:

Henry W. Poor, transacting business in the State of New York under the name of H. W. Poor & Co., has made a general assignment for the benefit of creditors to Mark T. Cox of Robert Winthrop & Co. There are no preferences beyond such as the statute gives to employees.

A superficial examination justifies the belief that if the year and had been in number, will cooperate in enabling the assignee to effect a favorable liquidation of the assets a large sum will be realized for their benefit. Written assurance of important financial assistance to such creditors as will cooperate to that end has been given.

Neither Mr. Cox, the assignee, nor Messrs. Robert Winthrop & Co. are interested as creditors or otherwise in the assigned estate.

It was no secret downtown that Mr. Poor's firm had some difficulties in the year of last year and had scarcely been on the top wave of prosperity since then. Mr. Poor has lived expensively, however, at 1 Lexington avenue, a residence consisting of two houses thrown into one; an elaborate country place at Tuxedo and a fine summer home at Bar Harbor, all of them containing more or less treasures of art besides Mr. Poor's costly collection of books. This collection, representing thirty years of gathering, was sold without explanation last month at auction and brought a large sum, but no statement was made as to the relation between the proceeds of the auction and the prices paid by Mr. Poor for the books.

At one time Mr. Poor was associated with Charles W. Morse in operations in American Ice. He is president of Poor's Railroad Manual Company, a director of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad and president of the Postal Telegraph Company of Texas, and a director of the United States Casualty Company. Poor's Manual of Railroads was established by Mr. Poor when in 1885 he began business as H. V. & H. W. Poor, who became widely known as publishers of that useful book. He went into the banking business in 1889 as Anthony, Poor & Oliphant, which firm dissolved in December, 1891, to be succeeded by Poor, Oliphant & Co. Poor, White & Co. followed then Poor & Greenough. Under this style the firm is best remembered by the later comers in the Street, and when the business was conducted under that name the firm was an important one in the financial section. Since 1890 the firm has been H. W. Poor & Co., with Mr. Poor, who then became a member of the Stock Exchange, as the board member and reputed capitalist of the firm. Two years ago Mr. Poor put the firm down as worth \$5,000,000. Mr. Poor himself has been reputed, as the word passed from mouth to mouth, to be worth \$5,000,000.

Early last winter Mr. Poor's firm was used by Edward Willits, who is a member of the hunting crowd of Westchester, for \$25,000 on allegations of fraud and misrepresentation in connection with the purchase by Mr. Willits of Newton and North-western (an Iowa railroad) bonds on Mr. Poor's firm's recommendation. Mr. Poor said in the firm's defense that the prospectus was issued by the firm of H. W. Poor & Co. of Boston, of which he was a member, in connection with another firm. The prospectus formed the basis of the purchase by Mr. Willits. Mr. Poor said that the statements in it were made on the authority of experts.

## ROBBED IN PARIS HOTEL.

## Woman Loses \$5,000 Worth of Jewels—Police Arrest a Man.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—André Martin was arrested to-day on the charge of stealing \$5,000 worth of jewels from Mme. Lillie Patterson, nee Smith. The robbery was committed at the Elysee Palace Hotel.

Mrs. Patterson picked up an acquaintance with Martin, thinking he was a gentleman. He disappeared on December, taking with him six of her rings.

Martin is about 20 years old. He lived for a long time in America.

## DEWETS WINES FOR NEW YEAR.

## Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—The Dewets, who are well known in the wine trade, are expected to arrive in New York to-day.

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## NORDICA'S CAR AFIRE.

## She Rushes Back and Rescues Valuables, Including a Priceless Necklace.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—Mme. Lillian Nordica lost her Christmas turkey and had a narrow escape from losing more valuable articles when her private car, parked near the Arcade depot, caught fire yesterday. The facts of the lost Christmas dinner became known to-day.

While Mme. Nordica was entertaining in her car, the Pilgrim, her sisters, who were to have been her guests for the dinner, Mrs. G. A. Walker and Mrs. E. Castillo, the chef rushed into the car crying "Fire!" Instantly Mme. Nordica and her guests seized what things they could carry and rushed from the car. Then she thought of her jewels and furs, fables and silver boxes, her lace, Parisian frocks and those thousand little necessities to every diva.

One item was priceless, a necklace of pearls just sent to her by a New York admirer. Its worth is so great and its interest so universal that she already had decided not to keep it, but to make it a gift to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Mme. Nordica ran back into the car and secured the treasured articles and returned to her friends. For a few minutes they watched the firemen putting out the fire. Then she calmly invited her guests to a hotel for the Christmas dinner.

## WON'T TELL WHERE HIS WIFE IS.

## She Has Been Missing From Her Home in Elgin, Ill., Since October 2.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Nellie B. Chappell, wife of Dr. Ora A. Chappell, the former dentist of Elgin, disappeared from her home on October 2, and following a search of almost three months by her sons and relatives Attorney John R. Powers, representing them, announced to-day that unless he found the missing woman within a week he would proceed against the doctor under the law covering kidnapping. To all the demands of the family Dr. Chappell has remained mute as to the whereabouts of his wife, and to-day when he was informed that proceedings in the courts were threatened he still refused to divulge her hiding place.

"I have nothing to say," said Dr. Chappell. "In about two months, when she gets back, my sons and her relatives will discover what fools they have been. She is alive, but further than that I will say absolutely nothing."

While Dr. Chappell remains silent, his son, Rodolph Chappell, 19 years of age, and Ora Chappell, 22, declare that their father is exerting an influence over their mother. They insist that at different times he has given out conflicting statements as to where their mother is. In these they claim he mentioned Denver, Los Angeles and Boise City. Dr. Chappell is a member of the Century and Country clubs, two of Elgin's most exclusive organizations. He is 68 years old.

## CAPT. HUMPHREYS CAN FIGHT.

## With the Help of a Negro He Holds a Gang of Prizefighters at Bay.

DENVER, Dec. 26.—Fighting side by side with Nathan Williams, a negro, Capt. C. B. Humphreys of Company I, Twenty-first Infantry, stationed at Fort Logan, knocked out four prizefighters, a trainer and rubber and succeeded in holding at bay more than fifty men who had boarded a suburban El Grande train at Petersburg after a prizefight at the Wayside Inn and started to row in the presence of a number of United States Army officers and their wives and guests yesterday afternoon.

The conductor stopped the train during the battle and telephoned to police headquarters, but when the officers met the train they found that the Captain's assailants had jumped off.

As a result of the fracas Capt. Humphreys is badly disfigured and disabled. He is under the care of the post surgeon at Fort Logan. Both of his hands were broken during the terrific hand to hand encounter with the prizefight principals and attendants and it will be two weeks before he recovers.

Williams, the negro, was taken to the police headquarters, where after hearing his story he was highly praised by Chief Armstrong and sent home.

## DEBTS OF SARAH PECKHAM.

## Creditors Never Succeeded in Getting Into Her Safe Deposit Strongbox.

A petition in bankruptcy has been filed against Sarah H. Peckham of 33 West Twenty-eighth street by Leon Brooks Levitt, attorney for these creditors: Stettin Bros., 52 Duane street, \$21 on a note dated September 15, 1908, payable thirty days after date; C. A. Read of Chicago, \$1,200 on a note dated April 10, 1907, payable on demand; and E. G. Read, Chicago, \$34, money advanced in 1907.

Bankruptcy proceedings against Mrs. Sarah H. Peckham, the wife of Frederick A. Peckham, cotton broker, who died in the East, were instituted in Washington last May for alleged connection with the cotton loan scandal of 1904, were begun in July, 1904, and dismissed the next month. Before her marriage she ran a mail order business in women's apparel in Chicago under the name of the Sarah De Fay Company. In 1903 she removed to this city, living first at the Hoffman House and then at the Hotel St. Denis, and continued the business at Broadway and Canal street.

It developed in the bankruptcy proceedings that Mrs. Peckham had rented a safe deposit box from the Madison Safe Deposit Company. The box was said to contain diamonds valued at \$50,000 and securities worth \$25,000 and secrets of interest to the cotton loan investigators. Judge Thomas ordered the box opened, but before that could be done a man appeared who paid every claim against the woman, the receiver fees, the cost of litigation and the fees of the opposing counsel. That ended the bankruptcy proceedings, and outsiders never learned what was in the box. The man who paid all these claims was W. W. Judd, who it was testified, was the confidential agent of L. C. Van Riper, whose revelations to Secretary Wilson started the cotton loan exposure.

## 184 MARRIAGE LICENSES IN TWO HOURS.

The half holiday marriage license record was broken at the City Hall yesterday, when 184 couples got wedding permits in two hours. City Clerk Scully thought that rush was due to the fact that many business places were not open yesterday and employees who had been figuring on matrimony took advantage of the day off.

## IDEAL FLORIST SERVICE VIA

Seaboard Air Line's Year Round Limited—Florida Mail, and connecting lines to Seaboard and Atlantic.

Office 118 B'way—Ad.

## CHILD FALLS THROUGH SCOW

## DUMPED INTO RIVER WHILE SHE WAS PICKING COAL.

The Scow One the Street Cleaning Department Had Hired and It Was Left at Dock Unattended—Improperly Cited Pocket Probable Cause of Accident.

Six of the Street Cleaning Department's scow captains went at work last night searching the East River in the neighborhood of 107th street for the body of Mary Santangelo, a nine-year-old Italian girl who was carried to the river in the afternoon when a mass of dirt and ashes from which she was picking coal on board the scow Astoria slid through one of the dumping pockets.

The Astoria is not one of the regular department scows. It is hired for extra work. It is what is known as a cylinder dumper with six pockets which are closed by chains wound over ratchet wheels and which are opened by the weight of the load when the dogs holding the ratchets are knocked from place.

The scow lay yesterday at the foot of East 107th street and Mary Santangelo with two other children went on board to pick coal. There were no workmen about when the children boarded the scow. They had been at work for some time when the dirt in the pocket in which they were searching began to slide.

Mary's companions were near the landward edge of the boat and jumped to the dock. When they looked back the pile of dirt in the pocket had disappeared and Mary was not to be seen. The children said nothing of what had happened until nearly an hour later, when Mrs. Santangelo came to ask them if they had seen Mary.

After hearing the children's story the mother hurried to the police station, and in a short time the harbor police from the East 107th street station were searching for the body. The police were joined by the men sent out by the Street Cleaning Department.

No final report had reached the superintendent of the dumps last night. It was said, however, that in all probability the pocket in which the children had been working had not been properly closed after the last load was dumped at sea. The theory was that the coarse dirt and ashes, when snovelled into the partly open pocket, had clogged the opening and that the action of the water and perhaps the added weight of the children had caused the load to slide through.

## THE HAMILTON IN A STORM.

## Old Dominion Liner's Narrow Escape From Being Driven on the Delaware Coast.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 26.—John Spear, second engineer on one of the Southern Pacific lines of steamers which ply in the Gulf of Mexico, who was a passenger on board the Old Dominion liner Hamilton during her trip in the storm of last Wednesday, told of panic and mutiny among the stokers and of storm conditions which he as an old tar had never experienced before.

Sandy Hook was rounded in comparatively calm water. It was when the big steamer was off the coast of Delaware that she struck the severest part of the storm. The boat careened, righted herself and then drifted toward the Delaware shore. So near was the boat to the shore that the captain, realizing the danger, ordered the stokers to be chained to their posts and the engines could produce more power the ship would be beached. Of this the passengers were kept ignorant.

McLaughlin gave orders for all of the crew to turn to, but some of the stokers refused to obey. At the point of a pistol, Mr. Spear said, the men were forced to shovel coal until the ship was in calmer water. The stokers had been chained to the part of the officers that the ship is above seas and her crew alive to tell the tale.

To make matters worse the cargo in the hold, due to the tossing and pitching of the vessel, shifted, crushing and mangle against the side of the boat five valuable show horses which were on the way to the Southern home show, having won ribbons at the New York show. The passengers, hearing the noise below, became more frightened and for a little while almost a state of panic reigned. After the stokers had been made to do their duty, both shifts being worked at one time, they were treated to a fine supper by the officers. This was after the ship had righted herself and was in calmer seas.

The Hamilton is now in New York on her return trip, seemingly none the worse for her rough usage during the trip down.

## A CASE OF THOMAS SMITHS.

## A Prisoner, a Lawyer and a Witness Puzzles the Magistrate.

Thomas Smith, who is charged with stealing six chickens from Washington Market on Christmas Day, and Thomas Smith, attorney for the Thomas Smith who is accused of taking the chickens, and Thomas Smith, watchman, who caught Thomas Smith, as he alleges, trying to make his getaway with the chickens, were all in Jefferson Market court yesterday to the confusion of Magistrate Barlow.

The case was called and all three men stood forward.

"Which one is Thomas Smith?" asked the Magistrate.

"That is my name," chorused the three.

"Well, Mr. Smith," said Magistrate Barlow to the attorney, "surely you are not the man who took the chickens?"

"No, he is my client," said the lawyer.

"And I am the watchman who caught him," said the third Thomas.

"All right, now we can proceed," and the Magistrate again took up the papers. Thomas Smith of 430 West Seventeenth street and Patrick Ahearn of 480 West Seventeenth street, who it is charged helped get the chickens, were each held in \$1,000 bail for trial.

## ACCUSED OF DRUGGING WOMAN.

## Mick Manure Has Young Man Arrested for Taking Her Savings.

John Maher, 23 years old, a clerk, of 690 Ninth avenue, was arrested last night charged with drugging Miss Elsie Rose, a manure, of 706 Seventh avenue. She said that on the night of December 8 she met Maher and they went to a saloon at Thirty-third street and Lexington avenue. She showed him \$119 in money and told him that she was sick and that she was going away for her health. After a drink she fell asleep and when she woke her money and a diamond ring were gone.

Miss Rose told the detectives that the money was all that she had saved. "She had been poor and she thought the money might be used to give her a decent burial in case of death. Miss Rose said that before her health gave away she was a trained nurse."

## GASOLINE IN WRIGHT MACHINE.

## Bastardly Effort to Wreck Aeroplane at Le Mans—Remarkable Flight.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LE MANS, Dec. 26.—Just prior to starting his flight in the afternoon Wright examined the machinery of his aeroplane and discovered that some evilly disposed person had removed the oil from the lubricating carrier and substituted gasoline. This made an explosion possible while the aeroplane was in flight, with probably serious consequences. After overhauling the machine Wright executed a series of remarkable flights.

Wilbur Wright intended to make an attempt to-day to beat the record he made on December 18, when he flew in his aeroplane sixty-two miles, winning the Michelin cup. The weather, however, was too cold. He will soon go to Pau, where his brother Orville will join him. The latter will return to America in March to carry out his contract with the United States Government.

Wilbur Wright made a zigzaggy flight with many abrupt turns this afternoon for M. Lillaz, chief of the cabinet of M. Barthou, Minister of Public Works.

## THEY JUST TOOK THINGS.

## Three Little Girls Caught Pilfering in the Stores.

Three little girls started out shopping yesterday afternoon with the evident intention of filling up the gaps which Santa Claus had left in their stockings. They had a very successful tour of the stores, and the only thing they forgot was to pay for what they carried away.

Store Detective Samuel Lauber saw the three of them, Jennie Herzog, who is 13 years old and lives at 405 East Eighty-first street, her nine-year-old sister Annie, and Adeline Brewer, a year younger, whose home is at 422 in the same street, coming out of a Sixth avenue store with their arms full of bundles and their pockets bulging. He told them they would have to take a ride with him and around to the West Twentieth street station they went.

The girls were searched and among them they had fifty-six different articles—Teddies, dolls, dishes, muffs, little furniture sets